

Special Speaker Schedule for Winter Quarter 2026 (01/22/2026)

Presented to you by the Pre-Dental Society at UC San Diego & Student-Run Free Dental Clinic Project

Mon Jan 5 – UCSD Winter Quarter 2026 Instruction Begins

1. Thu Jan 8 – 1st GBM of Winter Quarter

Topics: Join us for our first general body meeting of the quarter where PDS members who attended an externship at the University of Detroit Mercy will talk about the Pre-Dental Society, and how you can become a volunteer for the UCSD Student-Run Free Dental Clinics and see firsthand what dentistry is all about! We will also go over upcoming events and updates.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

2. Thu Jan 15 – David Dams, Director of Admissions, Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry, and GBM

Topics: Join us as Mr. Dams speaks about Temple's dental school, the admissions process, and all the opportunities they have to offer. After, we will go over upcoming events and updates. **Note:** GBM will take place after the speaker.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Mon Jan 19–Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

3. Thu Jan 22– Lance Attiq, D.M.D., and GBM

Topics: Dr. Lance Attiq is a PDS and ASDOH alumnus who will be presenting "The ADA and You". He will be giving background on organized dentistry, why it matters, what the tripartite membership is, in addition to his personal experience with the ADA. Before, we will go over upcoming events and updates.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

4. Thu Jan 29– David Rolf II, D.M.D., M.S., Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Brian Sherman, M.A., Director of Admissions, Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, and GBM

Topics: Dr. Rolf is a leader in dental academia and a periodontist with experience in private practice, research, and industry. Join us as he presents an overview of Case Western's curriculum and technology. He will be joined by Mr. Sherman who will answer questions about the admissions process. After, we will go over upcoming events and updates. **Note:** GBM will take place after the speakers.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

5. Thu Feb 5– Bart Watts, D.D.S., Associate Dean for Education & Student Life, Alex Steele, M.B.A, M.S.B.A, Director of Admissions, University of Utah School of Dentistry, and GBM

Topics: Dr. Bart Watts has worked in private practice, as well as in clinical education and simulation lab instruction at the University of Utah. Along with Director of Admissions, Mr. Alex Steele, they will present "Culture and Clinical Experience at the university of Utah School of Dentistry". **Note:** GBM will take place after the speaker.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

6. Thu Feb 12– Juliette Daniels, Ed.D., Associate Dean for Student Services & Enrollment Management, University of Detroit Mercy, School of Dentistry, and GBM

Topics: Dr. Juliette Daniels has worked with and helped dental students navigate the stresses and pressures of dental school for many years. She will present "The Road to Dentistry: Navigating Burnout, Impostor Phenomenon, and the Hidden Challenges". After, we will go over upcoming events and updates. **Note:** GBM will take place after the speakers.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Mon Feb 16–Presidents' Day Holiday

7. Thu Feb 19– Donna Kritz-Silverstein, Ph.D., Professor, Assistant Dean for Teaching Programs, Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health; Professor, Department of Family Medicine; Director, Student-Run Free Clinic Project & Pre-Dental Society, UC San Diego, "Writing Your Personal Statement", and GBM

Topics: Dr. Donna Kritz-Silverstein has taught a course on Scientific Writing for doctoral students as well as numerous classes on writing for almost 25 years. She will be discussing personal statements for dental and other professional school applications, and tips to improve writing. This is not to be missed if you are thinking of applying in the next year or two. Before, we will go over upcoming events and updates.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

8. Thu Feb 26– Alex Bolanos, M.A., Assistant Director, Admissions and Student Affairs, Loma Linda University, School of Dentistry, and GBM

Topics: Join as Mr. Bolanos speaks about his university and all the opportunities it has to offer in his presentation, "Exploring the LLU School of Dentistry D.D.S. Program".

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

9. Thu Mar 5– Jack Gormley, Ed.D., Assistant Dean for Learner Success and Belonging, UCSF School of Dentistry, and GBM

Topics: Join us as Dr. Gormley speaks about the program at UCSF and the opportunities it has to offer students. More details TBD.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

10. Thu Mar 12– PDS Panel, Timeline for Applying to Dental School, and GBM

Topics: A panel of PDS members recently admitted to dental school will discuss how you can be a successful applicant. Before, we will go over upcoming events and updates.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

11. Sat Mar 21 – ADEA GoDental Recruitment Event

Topics: The ADEA GoDental Recruitment Event provides an excellent opportunity to meet with admissions officers, faculty, and students from more than 70 U.S. and Canadian dental schools and attend interactive presentations to help you be a successful applicant to dental school. **Plan to arrive early (by Friday Mar 20)** for opening events and a mixer in preparation for the main event on Saturday. Visit adea.org/godental25 for more details. Visit www.adea.org/Godental26 for more details.

Where/When: Palais des Congrès de Montréal, Montréal, Canada, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

12. Sat-Tue Mar 21-24 – ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition

Topics: GoDental attendees should plan to stay for the Annual Session & Exhibition, where they can attend keynote speeches by academic leaders, explore dental industry and technology in a tech exhibit, attend a research poster board session, and enjoy more receptions and mixers. This is a fantastic opportunity to make even more connections and strengthen your dental school application! Visit www.adea.org/2026 for more details.

Where/When: Palais des Congrès de Montréal, Montréal, Canada, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Sat-Sat Mar 14-21 – UCSD Final Exams

Sat Mar 21 – UCSD Winter Quarter 2026 Ends

Mon Mar 30 – UCSD Spring Quarter 2026 Instruction Begins

13. Thu Apr 2– Speaker TBD, and GBM

Topics: Join us for our general body meeting where we'll go over upcoming events and updates.

Where/When: Zoom Meeting @ 6:00 PM

General Body Meetings on Zoom every Thursday at 6:00 PM: [Log on at uchealth.zoom.us/j/89579516652](https://uchealth.zoom.us/j/89579516652)

For more information, contact: **Donna Kritz-Silverstein, Ph.D.**, Advisor, Pre-Dental Society at UC San Diego, Director, UCSD Student-Run Free Dental Clinic Project - dsilverstein22@cox.net, 619-838-0822; **Sussi Yamaguchi, DDS**, Advisor, Pre-Dental Society at UC San Diego, Clinical Director, UCSD Student-Run Free Dental Clinic Project – miss.sussiq@gmail.com, 858-342-9372